

SOCCER

NEWS & VIEWS

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MELBOURNE

Saturday, 19th June, 1948.

The "Aunt Sally" Team

By F. J. HALL

It is sound practice and the general desire of all selection committees to regularly promote players from teams in lower grades to fill vacancies in more senior sides. Such a plan provides valuable experience for younger players and is a sound long-range policy for any club to adopt, because it gives the younger players an opportunity to measure speed, skill and technique against more experienced opponents.

The present season, with its interstate programme, which contains an "under 19" team for South Australia very late in the season, has presented a serious problem to all club selectors and demonstrates the need for greater wisdom and a long-range view when rules are drawn up for interstate competitions. Under the present regulations the reserve teams become "Aunt Sally" of the local competition. As an illustration of this, let us take the case of any first division side which fields a team in each grade of the competition. From its reserve side it must allocate the best of the players to fill vacancies in the more senior side, but under existing rules there can be no compensating promotion to the reserves of the best players from an "under 19" simply because the best of the "under 19" are all competing for a place in the interstate side for South Australia weeks hence.

It is generally understood (although different opinions seem to exist and warrant clarification) that a junior player must not compete in more than two senior games, otherwise he is likely to be disqualified from interstate selection.

In a local cup competition the rule may have some merit, but for all other purposes it is a rule, as far from modern as a pair of "Apple Shaker Pants," and only causes discontent among those who are called on each week to represent the "Aunt Sally" team.

There are good teams in the Reserve League whose chance of League Championship or possibly winning a cup are drifting away each week, because the players who should be in the reserve team are forced to play "under 19" much to the disadvantage of their club.

There is one single question which should rule interstate selection—"a player is either 'under 19' or he is not." If he is "under 19," then he should be eligible for selection regardless of any other consideration. Moreover, it is the only way in which the best "under 19" side from any State could be chosen. I may incur the displeasure of the framers of the rule now in existence, but I am prepared to take a chance on the vote that the rule would receive its "exodus" if put to the whole of the players and club officials. What about it? I say that we cannot afford to have any "Aunt Sally" teams.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE**First Division**

Brighton 4 d. Park Rangers 1.
 Prahran 4 drew with Box Hill 4.
 Sunshine United 2 d. Western Suburbs 0.
 Yallourn 1 d. Moreland 0.

Second Division

Preston 3 d. Coburg 2.
 South Yarra 2 drew with Bradford 2.
 Ringwood 2 d. Hakoah J.R.C. 1.
 South Melbourne United 4 d. Northcote 0.

Third Division

Woodlands 4 d. Brighton 3.
 Heidelberg "B" v. Metters result not to hand.
 Heidelberg "A" 5 d. Yarraville 1.
 Melbourne University 4 d. Olympic 1.
 George Cross 7 d. Northern United 1.
 Williamstown 5 d. Macedonians 2.

First Division Reserves

Brighton 3 d. Park Rangers 1.
 Prahran 1 d. Box Hill 0.
 Western Suburbs 2 d. Sunshine United 1.
 Yallourn 3 drew with Moreland 3.

Second Division Reserves

Preston 1 drew with Coburg 1.
 South Yarra 4 d. Bradford 2.
 Ringwood 1 d. Hakoah J.R.C. 0.
 South Melbourne United 12 d. Northcote 0.

Under 19 Division

Brighton 6 d. South Yarra 0.
 Park Rangers 2 d. Yallourn 0.
 Prahran 3 d. Box Hill 1.
 Hakoah J.R.C. defaulted against Western Suburbs.
 Coburg 2 drew with Preston 2.

Under 17 Division

Brighton 4 d. Box Hill 1.
 Coburg 4 d. Sunshine United 2.
 Preston 3 d. South Melbourne United 2.

Under 15 Division

Preston 7 d. Northcote 0.
 Sunshine United 4 d. Box Hill 2.
 South Melbourne United 4 d. Brighton 2.

**LIGHTNING PREMIERSHIP RESULTS**

Park Rangers won the 1948 Lightning Premiership defeating Box Hill in the final by 1 goal 2 corners to 1 corner.

Results are as follows:—

First Round

South Yarra won by default against Heidelberg.
 Brighton won by default against Coburg.
 Park Rangers 1 goal 2 corners defeated South Melbourne United 2 corners after extra time.
 Williamstown won by default against Sunshine United.

Second Round

Prahran 6 goals 1 corner d. Ringwood, no score.
 Preston 3 goals 1 corner d. Brighton 1 goal 3 corners.
 Box Hill 1 goal 2 corners d. South Yarra 1 corner.
 Park Rangers 4 goals 3 corners d. Williamstown, no score.

Semi-Finals

Box Hill 2 goals d. Prahran 1 goal 3 corners.
 Park Rangers 1 goal 3 corners d. Preston 2 corners.

Final

Park Rangers 1 goal 2 corners d. Box Hill 1 corner.

**VICTORIANS SELECTED FOR NEW ZEALAND**

Followers of soccer in Victoria will join us in our congratulations to Angus Drennan (Sunshine United) and Alan Gravell (Box Hill) on their being selected to represent Australia in the coming tour of New Zealand.

Their selection on present form is well deserved, and we wish them both the best of luck. We also hope that they will be chosen to play in some of the Test games.

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South Yarra	1	0	0	1	1	5	0
Hakoah J.R.C.	1	0	0	1	1	5	0
Prahran	1	0	0	1	0	5	0
West Suburbs	1	0	0	1	0	5	0

Under 17 Division

Club	Goals						
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pt
Box Hill	1	1	0	0	6	0	2
South Melb. United . .	1	1	0	0	4	2	2
Preston	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Brighton	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Sunshine United	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Coburg	1	0	0	1	0	6	0

Note.—Championship Ladders for Third Division—"B" Section, Reserve League—Second Division, and Under 15 Division, could not be compiled owing to certain games not being played, and some results not coming to hand.



GAMES FOR TODAY

First Division

Park Rangers v. Brighton at Olympic Park.
Box Hill v. Prahran.
Sunshine United v. West Suburbs.
Yallourn v. Moreland.

Second Division

Preston v. Coburg.
Bradford v. South Yarra.
Ringwood v. Hakoah J.R.C.
South Melbourne United v. Northcote.

Third Division—"A" Section

Northern United v. Brighton.
Williamstown v. Heidelberg.
Olympic v. Metters.
Macedonians v. Yarraville.

Third Division—"B" Section

Heidelberg "B" v. Macedonians "B."
Woodlands v. Northern United "B."
George Cross v. Melbourne University.

Reserve League

As for First and Second Divisions, but on reverse grounds.

Under 19 Division

Prahran v. Preston.
South Yarra v. Park Rangers.
Box Hill v. Yallourn.
Brighton v. Hakoah J.R.C.
West Suburbs v. Coburg.

Under 17 Division

Sunshine United v. Brighton.
Coburg v. South Melbourne United.
Preston v. Box Hill.

Under 15 Division

These fixtures had to be redrawn owing to withdrawal of Coburg. Draw not to hand at time of going to press.



NEXT SATURDAY'S GAMES

First Division

Brighton v. Sunshine United.
Prahran v. Yallourn.
Moreland v. Box Hill.
West Suburbs v. Park Rangers.

Second Division

Coburg v. Ringwood.
South Yarra v. South Melbourne United.
Northcote v. Bradford.
Hakoah J.R.C. v. Preston.

Third Division—"A" Section

Yarraville v. Heidelberg.
Olympic Park v. Northern United.
Brighton v. Williamstown.
Metters v. Macedonians.

Third Division—"B" Section

Macedonians "B" v. Woodlands.
George Cross v. Heidelberg "B."
Northern United "B" v. Melbourne University.

Reserve League

As for First and Second Divisions, but on reverse grounds.

Under 19 Division

Preston v. Box Hill.
Park Rangers v. West Suburbs.
Hakoah J.R.C. v. South Yarra.
Brighton v. Prahran.
Yallourn v. Coburg.

Under 17 Division

Brighton v. Coburg.
Preston v. Sunshine United.
South Melbourne United v. Box Hill.

Under 15 Division

Redrawn fixtures not to hand at time of going to press.

A BRIEF SURVEY OF THE OPENING ROUND

Close contests resulted in all main division games played in the opening round on Saturday, which augers well for future games when all teams settle down and players get into form.

Two narrow victories were made by Park Rangers and Sunshine United against their opponents, Prahran and Moreland, whilst two-all drawn games resulted in the Brighton-Box Hill and Western Suburbs-Yallourn encounters. In the Second Division, two drawn games also resulted.

Forrest, ex-Moreland player, scored both Park Rangers goals against Prahran, and he should be an asset to his side as the season progresses.

Sunshine United were two goals down at half time in their match against Moreland at Campbell Reserve, but the strong determination of the younger visiting side carried them to victory by 5 goals to 4.

Johnnie Johnstone again proved a goal-getter for South Yarra by scoring two of his team's goals against Preston in the Second Division match played at Fawkner Park.

Of the Third Division contests new teams in Heidelberg, Yarraville and Williamstown, all had victories in their first league games for the season, whilst Melbourne University and Woodlands played a one-all draw.



Main Games For Today

Of the games to be played today, the most interesting First Division matches should be Park Rangers versus Brighton, at Olympic Park, and Box Hill versus Prahran, at Surrey Park. Sunshine United will be meeting its neighbors, Western Suburbs for the first time, and a very interesting match should result.

In the Second Division the main game should be at Footscray between Bradford and South Yarra.



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CLUBS AND NUMBER OF TEAMS THIS SEASON

First Division

Brighton	6 Teams
Box Hill	5 "
Park Rangers	3 "
Sunshine United	4 "
Prahran	3 "
Western Suburbs	3 "
Yallourn	3 "
Moreland	2 "

Second Division

Preston	5 Teams
Coburg	4 "
South Melbourne United	4 "
South Yarra	3 "
Northcote	3 "
Ringwood	3 "
Hakoah J.R.C.	3 "
Bradford	2 "

Third Division

All Clubs are fielding one team excepting Heidelberg and Northern United, who each have two teams.

In all there are 26 Clubs making a total of 70 teams competing.

CLUB JOTTINGS

Preston Club

Preston Club extends the "Soccer Season's Greetings" to all other Clubs taking part in the 1948 competitions. We hope that this season will be a happy one for all Clubs and Victorian soccer football in general.

Preston is sending 5 teams into the fray this season; Seniors, Reserves, and three Junior teams—Under 19, Under 17, and Under 15.

On studying the past season of the English F.A. First Division, it can be seen that Preston was right up among the leaders, as well as going well in the Cup rounds. Although there are no "Tom Finneys" out Preston way (yet) we have hopes emulating our namesake team.

As usual the Preston ground is next to the Preston Technical School. During the 1947 season Preston Technical School soccer team carried everything before them and shows signs of producing quite a few talented soccer players.

Park Rangers Club

The trip made by the Park Rangers Soccer Club to Tasmania over the Easter period proved very successful in more ways than one. The travelling conditions were first class, even although the long train journey was a bit tiring. On arriving in Hobart we were met by the officials of the Titan Soccer Club who without any delay escorted us to our accommodation. The people of Hobart were very hospitable, especially the South Hobart Soccer Club, who after our game with them on the Saturday invited us to a buffet dinner held at the Cascade Hotel, the same night. It was a night which I do not think the boys will ever forget. On the Sunday and Monday there were trips made to the snow and everybody enjoyed them thoroughly especially those who had never seen snow before. Two more games were played on the Monday afternoon against the Titan Soccer Club.

The trip also inspired soccer enthusiasts in Hobart and there is a great possibility of soccer going ahead in Tasmania. There are eight "A" grade teams this year compared with last year's four team. I think that this is a good indication of soccer's improvement in Tasmania since the war terminated. Then again if all the players of other Hobart teams

are as good sportsmen as the South Hobart and Titan Clubs, then there is no reason why it should no go ahead.

Hakoah Club

On Easter Monday we played a practice match against South Yarra, which we won 4 goals to 1 goal. The game was quite enjoyable and was played in a real friendly spirit.

Our Juniors were not quite strong enough for Brighton and were defeated by 6 goals to one.

Yallourn Club

A very successful social and dance was held at the R.S.L. Hall on Friday, April 2nd. All new members of the Club were introduced and a hearty welcome extended to all. Quite a few of the newly arrived Balts were there and made welcome. Mr. F. McIvor, who is captain and coach of the Club has all these players under his wing. All players and supporters are asked to assist the Club in all its endeavours to run social evening, etc. in providing funds for the Club. Soccer is on the upward grade and we must make sure we keep it there.

The task is a big one for the committee, so players and supporters help your Club all you can. A hearty invitation is extended to all players and supporters to the Club's next Social Evening to be held at the R.S.L. Hall, on Monday, May 17. Thanks are due to the Ladies' Committee for supper arrangements of the Club's socials. And for the benefit of Melbourne visitors, afternoon teas are provided on the ground at a small charge at all games.



SCREEN PUBLICITY

During the forthcoming week the Association's screen slide will be shown at "Fairfield Theatre," Fairfield, and "Shore Theatre," Williamstown.



OBITUARY

It is with regret we learn of the death of the wife of Mr. J. G. Hawes, Vice-President of the V.S.F.A.

The funeral took place on Monday, April 19, at Springvale Crematorium, and a wreath was forwarded by the Victorian Soccer Football Association which was represented by the Secretary, Mr. H. Armstrong.

LIGHTNING PREMIERSHIPS—JUNIORS

Labor Day 26th April, 1948, at Olympic Park

The Lightning Premierships for Juniors Under 19, Under 17, and Under 15, will take place as stated above, commencing at 10 a.m., and running through to approximately 4.30 p.m., allowing an interval of one hour for lunch.

It is important that all players be in attendance in good time to enable a punctual start to be made and the time-table to be kept; more important still is the attendance of at least two representatives of each competing Club—one to act as Team Manager and one to act as Steward and Member of the Committee controlling the day's competitions.

Here is hoping it will be a fine day and a good assembly to witness the special games by the Juniors who no doubt will be looking forward to them. If this Carnival is a success we should, if practicable make it an annual event.

We express our appreciation to the Referees Association, whose members are giving their services free of charge, which indicates that they are desirous of helping the Council in its efforts towards progress of the game of soccer in Victoria.

Fixtures and Time Table as follows:—**Under 15 Section—20 Minutes Play**

Starting at 10 a.m.—

South Melbourne United v. Preston.

Brighton, a bye.

Under 17 Section—20 Minutes Play

Starting 10.25 a.m.—

Preston v. Coburg.

Starting 10.50 a.m.

South Melbourne United v. Brighton.

Under 15 Final—20 Minutes Play

Starting 11.15 a.m.—

Brighton v. South Melbourne United or Preston.

Under 17 Final—30 Minutes Play

Starting 11.45 a.m.—

Preston or Coburg v. South Melbourne United or Brighton.

LUNCH, 12.15 p.m.—1 p.m.

Under 19 Section—20 Minutes Play

Starting 1.5 p.m.—

South Yarra v. Western Suburbs.

Starting 1.30 p.m.—

Coburg v. Prahran.

Starting 1.55 p.m.—

Brighton v. Box Hill.

Starting 2.20 p.m.—

Preston v. Park Rangers.

Under 19 Semi-Finals—30 Minutes Play

Starting 2.45 p.m.—

South Yarra or Western Suburbs v. Coburg or Prahran.

Starting 3.20 p.m.—

Brighton or Box Hill v. Preston or Park Rangers.

Under 19 Final—30 Minutes Play

Starting 4.10 p.m.—

Winner of first semi-final v. winner of second semi-final.

**RULES FOR LIGHTNING PREMIERSHIP TOURNAMENT**

1. The game shall be played as follows:
Under 15 Section—10 minutes each way.
Under 17 and 19 Sections—All rounds 10 minutes each way.
Semi-finals and Finals—15 minutes each way. In the event of no decision, 3 minutes each way shall be played until finality is reached.
2. In the event of no goals, corners gained to decide.
3. Corner kicks will not be taken. The ball will be kicked off as in goal kicks.
4. The referee on the commencement of the game and after any goals scored, shall bounce the ball in the centre of the field.
5. No claims for off-side will be allowed.
6. Competing teams must be on the ground ready to start at the time notified, or they may be disqualified.
7. The referee's decisions on all matters pertaining to the game is final.
8. No players shall be allowed to play for more than one team in the tournament. Any infringement of this rule will mean absolute disqualification of the offending team from the tournament.

SOCCER IN THE U.S.

"We will go to London just for the ride." This is the summing up of America's Olympic chances in the field of amateur soccer by Joseph Barriskill, chairman of the U.S. Olympic Soccer Committee.

"The Europeans still have too much finesse for us," he stated recently, "but more and more American youngsters are playing soccer from childhood onward, and this will produce even better players."

The finesse is on its way. We start teaching kids to play now at 8 years of age, and they are playing league games until they are 12 years old. Having learned the game, they demand that it be played in high schools and colleges."

This augurs well for America's chances when 1952 rolls around. Soccer is rapidly taking hold, especially in the New York Schools where the Board of Education have started to pay teachers to coach the game.

The executive secretary of the U.S. Soccer Football Association, Barriskill said that there are about 2,000 teams affiliated to the Association, and another 2,500 non-association teams in colleges, high schools and prep schools.

The American Olympic Soccer team will probably be made up of college players for the first time, and coaches seek speed and stamina to make up for the lack of finesse and skill. Trials for college players eligible for Olympic team will be held separately from the other amateur teams. Then a team of college all-stars will play a team selected from the cream of the amateur club players.

This programme will have taken place on both sides of the United States and the grand finale to the Olympic trials will take place at St. Louis on May 15th, when East versus West match will take place. From the results from this match 15 players will be chosen for the Olympic soccer squad.

Ex-Burnley player and former referee states, "I well remember a match I took on the Bramwell Lane ground, Sheffield, in which I used a pedometer to gauge the distance I covered as referee, and I was surprised to find, after crediting myself with good positioning to save my legs, that I had actually covered 9 miles 350 yards during the ninety minutes on the field."

DOCKERTY CUP TIME

By "Pilgrim"

With the commencement of the Dockerty Cup Competition excited fans will be urging on their sides with an enthusiasm rarely evident in the league games. For weeks past, club gossip has centred around the prospects of winning this much coveted trophy. Teams low on the league tables are full of optimism, knowing that this knock out series always provides some surprises. The teams heading the tables are anxious, realising that rarely does a team do well in both Cup and league. So with hope and anxiety mixed the games often are full of thrills and shocks. Players are keyed up and strive desperately for they know that interest in a Club who are knocked out early is inclined to wane. There is one other aspect of the Cup which is all important and that is the draw. With it goes a certain amount of luck for their is no doubt that some teams are hard to beat on their own grounds. However the draw is part of the Cup and certainly gives the event a fascination of its own. This season Sunshine will be hot favourites on form and will strive hard to pull off the "double"—League and Cup.

The fact that teams like Brighton and Prahran, Sunshine and Moreland, meet in the first round may seem harsh but that is the luck of the draw.

Maybe when we have four divisions of soccer, a qualifying round may be introduced. I have even heard a suggestion that the draw should be seeded as in tennis, but favour the present system despite its flaws.



CLUB JOTTINGS

Yarraville Club

The Yarraville Soccer Club will hold a Grand Ball Cabaret Social and Dance in Cuming's Institute on Friday evening, the 25th June. Plenty of good entertainment by professional artists. Tickets 2/11, including tax, tickets can be purchased from the Secretary, Mr. P. McCoid, 28 Park Crescent, North Williamstown.

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them one or two balls they will be thankfully received and faithfully played with. I may also state I have sent them five copies of the "Soccer News" today. While on the subject of soccer I watched with keen interest at the games played in Adelaide. It seems the game is on the up-grade in that city, and by what I saw it was a credit to the soccer code, good clean football and refereeing.

One particular game I watched was Second Division Railways versus Western Suburbs, and we have a lot to learn here in ball control and passing, it was a credit to watch the game, finished 2-2 a draw.

—J. McCARTHY, President Coburg Soccer Club.



SCREEN PUBLICITY

During the forthcoming week the Association's screen slide will be shown at "Broadway Theatre," Camberwell, and "Clifton Theatre," Clifton Hill.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor,

Sir,—Having returned from a fortnight's trip or holiday from Whyalla, South Australia, I was impressed by the way they are trying to encourage soccer in this new town.

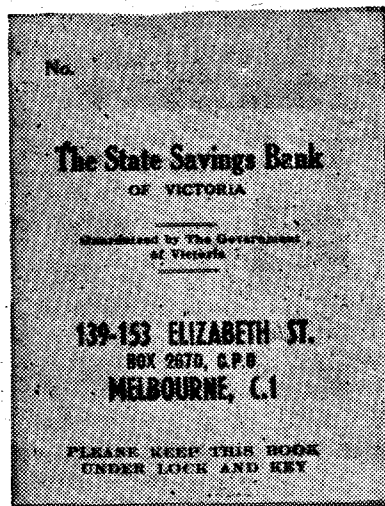
At one time I believe they had four teams but that was before the war.

Today, a man by the name of J. Thomas, has the uphill hard job before him. He trains the scouts, also the local boys, and the older members of the code.

Having watched him, and spoken to him of the game, he tells me, a friend or soccer associate of his is trying to get two teams going at Iron Knob, a distance of 35 miles from Whyalla where some forty Balts are working in the iron ore deposits.

This place is very isolated and no sport, and this friend of his is going to get the game going there, so as to keep the boys together, also then challenge Whyalla to a game.

But they are badly in need of soccer balls, so through your paper, if any Club can send



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